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COUNTRY Eastern Germany

TOPIC Airfield under Construction in Schorfheide

25X1

DATE PREPARED 20 August 1952

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 -- sketch on ditto

REMARKS

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1. On 8 July 1952, the chief of the personnel section of the Brandenburg Bau-union requested 3,000 workers, such as masons, concrete workers, carpenters, diggers and hodmen, from Prenzlaue labor office for a construction project in the Zehdenick-Vogelsang area. The request was to be approved in writing by the appropriate ministry. The construction project which was designated Soviet Army Project included concrete installations for an airfield. Brick quarters for the workers and shops for the trade and consumers organizations were to be erected first. Construction work was to start on 9 and 10 July, but this date could not be met because of a shortage of workers. The laborers required for the construction of the brick quarters were to be provided up to 15 July. A regular bus traffic between the construction site and the Prenzlaue railroad station was to be established.

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2. On 21 July 1952, a German construction engineer arrived at the Soviet construction unit near Vietmannsdorf. The engineer was employed by a firm which was charged with the laying of a spur track, 15.6 km long, extending from a point south of Vogelsang railroad station toward the east, south of Grunewald. The cut timber was to be used for work on the railroad line. Two saw frames were in operation at the construction site near the construction unit. Three temporary buildings and about 20 trucks were observed in the construction supply dump in Jagen (forest subarea) 160, which was surrounded by a barbed wire fence. The area of the construction project was being cleared of woods east and west of Vietmannsdorf-GrossDoelln road to a width of about 1,500 meters on each side. The area was surrounded by a barbed wire fence and extended from Jagen 190 to 196. Local residents believed that an airfield was to be constructed there. *

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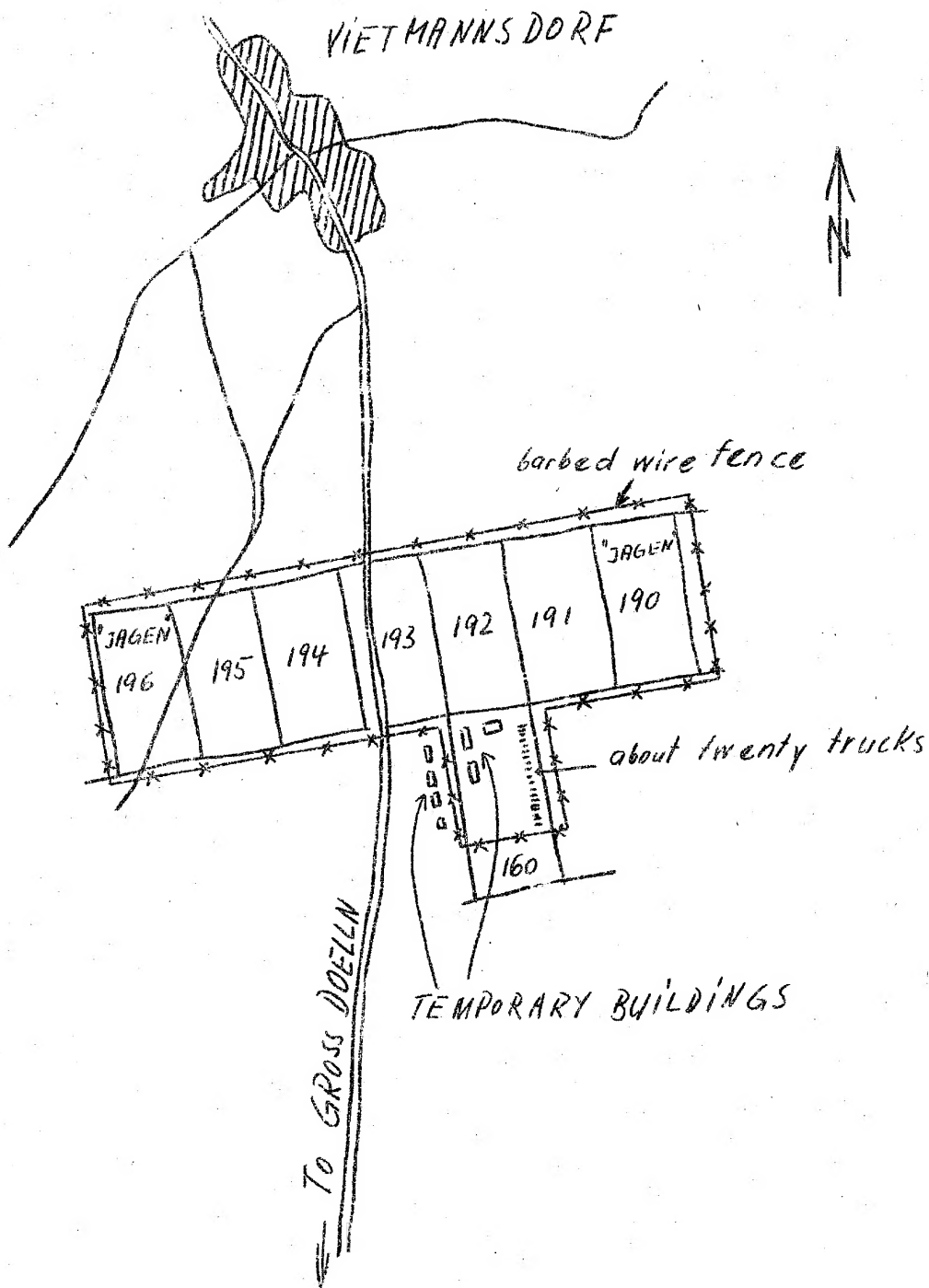
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- * Comment. The report confirms previous information on an airfield construction project in the Schorfheide. This is the first information on the pinpoint location of the construction project. For location sketch, see Annex. The Jagen (forest subareas) are entered on Map GSOS 4411, Sheet 2947. The construction project appears to be similar to those observed at Duchholz, Muhlwinkel, Retzow and Schoenhauser Damm, where airfields without hard-surface runways are under construction. However, the length of the airfields would be suitable for modern jet aircraft. From the total size of the Jagen the airfield would cover an area 700 x 2,650 meters.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

Location Sketch of Schorfheide Airfield

which is under Construction



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